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AutoTemplatePlugin

Automatically sets VIEW_TEMPLATE and EDIT_TEMPLATE

Description

This plugin sets the VIEW_TEMPLATE and EDIT_TEMPLATE variables according to a corresponding form or rule. For example, when you attach a new form to a topic, this plugin will enable the corresponding view/edit template automatically. This comes in very handy for applications where users create new topics without the help of a topic creator wizard, e.g. creating a new topic for a yet non-existing WikiWord. Together with the appropriate application settings, this plugin will then assure that the data the user enters is handled appropriately during view and edit.

Another use case is to apply a VIEW_TEMPLATE to a set of topics whose name matches a given pattern rule.

There are three base strategies on how the name of the template is derived:

1. `exist`
2. `section`
3. `rules`

These can be combined in a prioritized list defaulting to `rules`, `exist`. This will try each strategy in the given order until a matching view template is found.

Note: this is a fork of the `AutoTemplatePlugin` by Oliver Krüger. The difference between both is that `AutoTemplatePlugin` adds a rule-based strategy to derive VIEW_ and EDIT_TEMPLATES as well as replacing the fixed selection which strategy to use with a priority of modes (see below).

If you decide to install `AutoTemplatePlugin` then please disable the `AutoViewTemplatePlugin`. Do not use both in parallel.

Mode "exist"

A topic that has a `MyForm` WikiForm attached to it, will be displayed using the view template `MyView` and edited using the `MyEdit` if they exist. The template name is derived by stripping off the suffix `...Form` from the form name and appending `...View`. The Wiki engine will then use the template name `MyView` to search for the correct template along the template search path, for example using a topic `MyView`.

Examples:

You have a form called `PurchaseRequestForm`. The plugin will now search for `PurchaseRequestViewTemplate`, and `PurchaseRequestEditTemplate`.

Mode "section"

A topic with a `MyForm` will be displayed/edited using the template name stored in the named section `viewtemplate/edittemplate`. For example given the `MyForm` form definition topic contains a section `viewtemplate` whose only content is `MyOtherView`, then this will be used to view the topic. Likewise, the content of the `edittemplate` section in `MyForm` will read to find the edit template.

By default existing values for `VIEW_TEMPLATE` and `EDIT_TEMPLATE` have priority. You can change this behaviour in `configure` so that the form defined templates have priority.

Examples:

We have a form called `PurchaseRequestForm` which contains the usual table that defined the form fields.

We want this form to define that the topics are viewed with `ViewFormAtTopTemplate` and edited with `EditPurchaseRequestTemplate`.

Below this we place the two sections that defines the templates to be used. Note that you must omit the `...Template` from the template names.

```
%STARTSECTION{"viewtemplate"}%ViewFormAtTopTemplate%ENDSECTION{"edittemplate"}%
%STARTSECTION{"edittemplate"}%EditPurchaseRequest%ENDSECTION{"edittemplate"}%
```

Mode "rules"

For both view and edit, a set of rules can be specified in `configure` where each rule has got the format

```
'<pattern>' => '<template name>'
```

A topic's name will be matched against the regular expression in `<pattern>` to decide on the template name to be used for the current template. A pattern can either cover the full qualified topic name (`web.topic`) or just the topic name. Rules are checked against the FQTN first.

Examples:

```
$Foswiki::cfg{Plugins}{AutoTemplatePlugin}{ViewTemplateRules} = {
    'WebTopicList' => 'WebTopicListView',
    'Tasks\Item.*' => 'Tasks.ItemView',
    'Item.*' => 'Applications.TaskApp.ItemView',
    'WebSearch.*' => 'KinoSearchView',
};
```

This will apply the `WebTopicListViewTemplate` to the `WebTopicList` topic in all webs, the `KinoSearchViewTemplate` to all `WebSearch` and `WebSearchAdvanced` topics in all webs and the `Tasks.ItemViewTemplate` to all `Item` topics in the `Tasks` web. Other `Item` topics will be displayed using the `Applications.TaskApp.ItemViewTemplate`

Configuration Settings

The following settings can be defined in configure

Setting	Description	Default
{Plugins}{AutoTemplatePlugin}{Debug}	Turn on debugging by turning this on	Default: On
{Plugins}{AutoTemplatePlugin}{Override}	Form defined templates override VIEW_TEMPLATE and EDIT_TEMPLATE settings	Default: Off
{Plugins}{AutoTemplatePlugin}{Mode}	A priority list of strategies the plugin uses for defining templates. exist for deriving the template name from the form name section for defining the template in a section of the form definition topic rules for defining the template using the two rule sets below	Default: rules, exist
{Plugins}{AutoTemplatePlugin}{ViewTemplateRules}	hash of <pattern> > '<template name>' rules to be used for =view	
{Plugins}{AutoTemplatePlugin}{EditTemplateRules}	hash of <pattern> > '<template name>' rules to be used for =edit	

Plugin Installation Instructions

You do not need to install anything in the browser to use this extension. The following instructions are for the administrator who installs the extension on the server.

Open configure, and open the "Extensions" section. Use "Find More Extensions" to get a list of available extensions. Select "Install".

If you have any problems, or if the extension isn't available in `configure`, then you can still install manually from the command-line. See <http://foswiki.org/Support/ManuallyInstallingExtensions> for more help.

Plugin Info

Plugin Author:	Foswiki:Main.MichaelDaum
Copyright:	© 2008-2010, Oliver Krüger, Michael Daum
License:	GPL (GNU General Public License)
Release:	1.1
Version:	6286 (2010-02-12)
Change History:	
12 Feb 2010:	fixed order rules are matched against the web.topic name
15 Dec 2009:	forked Foswiki:Extensions.AutoViewTemplatePlugin as rule-based feature was rejected. See Foswiki:Development.RulebasedViewTemplates
03 Nov 2009:	added rule-based strategy; made mode a priority list (MD)

06 Oct 2009:	Item2213: Plugin got better documentation. No change in behaviour.
20 Aug 2009:	Item8248: added forward-compatibility for newer Foswikis (MD)
27 Dec 2008:	Item196: moved to Foswiki namespace
15 Nov 2008:	Item196: minor doc changes
11 Jul 2008:	Item5770: try to derive the EDIT_TEMPLATE of a new topic using the WebTopicEditTemplate (MD)
03 Jul 2008:	Item5747: fixed normalizing web part of form names (MD)
13 Nov 2007:	added EDIT_TEMPLATE, speed improvements, docu (MD)
29 Oct 2007:	Item4904: made specification of view template skin agnostic, fixed view templates in subwebs (MD)
04 Sep 2007:	Added build script and installer, minor doc changes
05 Jun 2007:	Initial version
Foswiki\$Foswiki::Plugins::VERSION	1.026
Dependency:	
CPAN	none
Dependencies:	
Other	none
Dependencies:	
Home:	Foswiki:Extensions/AutoTemplatePlugin
Support:	Foswiki:Extensions/AutoTemplatePlugin

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